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(54) **HOMOGENEOUS PROCESS FOR THE
HYDROGENATION OF CARBOXYLIC ACIDS
AND DERIVATIVES THEREOF**

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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A homogenous process for the hydrogenation of the carboxylic acids and/or derivatives thereof in the presence of a catalyst comprising ruthenium, rhodium, iron, osmium or palladium, and an organic phosphine is described in which the hydrogenation is carried out in the presence of at least about 1% by weight water. A process for regenerating a catalyst comprising ruthenium, rhodium, iron, osmium or palladium and an organic phosphine is also described in which the regeneration is carried out in the presence of hydrogen and water.

3 Claims, No Drawings